SENATE BILL 467

By Bell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 10, Chapter 7 and Title 39, relative to disclosure of confidential information.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 10-7-504(f), is amended by adding the following new subdivision:

(8)

- (A) Any person required by law to treat information described in subdivision (f)(1)(D) as confidential commits an offense if such information pertains to a law enforcement officer and:
 - (i) The person acts with criminal negligence, as defined in § 39-11-106, in releasing the information to the public; or
 - (ii) The person knows the information is to be treated as confidential and intentionally releases the information to the public.(B)
 - (i) A violation of subdivision (f)(8)(A)(i) is a Class B misdemeanor punishable only by a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500).
 - (ii) A violation of subdivision (f)(8)(A)(ii) is a Class A misdemeanor punishable only by a fine of two thousand dollars (\$2,000).
 - (C) Subdivision (f)(8)(A) shall not apply if:
 - (i) The law enforcement officer whose information is treated as confidential under subdivision (f)(1)(D) expressly authorizes the release of such information; or

(ii) The information is released pursuant to court order.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017, the public welfare requiring it.